

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claim 9 (currently amended):            Process for the remelting of glass bars, with the following features:

- a glass bar (2) is introduced into the upper end of a receiving shell (1);
- underneath the receiving shell (1) there is made available a molten bath (7) with a surface (7.1);
- the receiving shell (1) is positioned in such manner that its lower edge is located at the height of the surface (7.1) or above it;
- the lower end of the glass bar (2) is heated to a temperature above the softening temperature of the glass;
- the melt-off process is controlled in such manner that a continuous melt stream enters the molten bath (7) with avoidance of a constriction;
- melt is drawn off from the molten bath (7) by means of an arrangement for drop generation.

Claim 10 (currently amended):            Process according to claim 9, characterized in that the melting-off of the glass bar (2) is performed by the coupling of electric energy into the crucible unit or by radiation heating elements, or by burner (~~blowpipe~~) heating.

Claim 11 (currently amended):            Process according to claim 9, characterized in that the glass throughput is controlled by the means that at least one of the following parameters is altered:

- by the amount of the supplied energy;
- by the spacing between the under edge of the receiving shell (1) and the liquid surface (7.1) of the molten bath (7);
- by a choking of the glass stream emerging from the bath (7).

Application Serial No. 09/748,974  
Amendment dated June 19, 2003  
Reply to Office Action dated March 19, 2003

Claim 12 (currently amended):      Process according to claim 9, characterized in that the glass bars ~~(2)~~ used have in each case at least one end which closes off with a convex form ~~(for example a cone, a hemisphere)~~ or with a flat surface, in order to avoid an inclusion of gas at the bar-to-bar impact point.